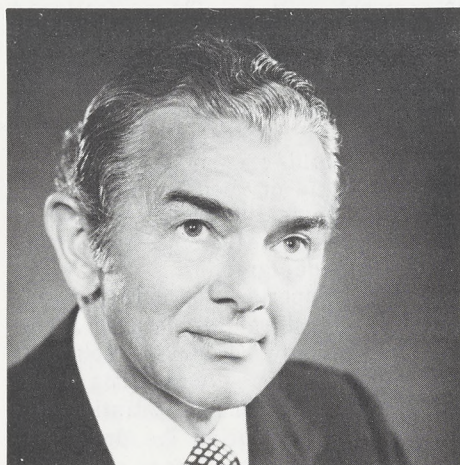


# OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB BULLETIN

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MARCH 15, 1979

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Allan Neuharth

—Fabian Bachrach photo

## Neuharth Talks Shop March 21

### The urge to merge.

Today, three men control the destiny of what news you see on the tube. And 20 publishers control over half of the daily newspaper circulation in the United States. What does this mean to a free editorial voice?

This will be the subject of a special "Shop Talk" at the Biltmore on Wednesday, March 21. Our guest will be Allan H. Neuharth, chairman and president of Gannett Co. Inc. and chairman and president of the American Newspaper Publishers Association. As head of the nation's second largest newspaper conglomerate, Neuharth has personal interest as well as experience in the area. The cocktails and conversation will start at 5:30 PM and there will be a cash bar. —Charles Schreiber

## Gen. Haig Will Speak at OPC Annual Awards Dinner May 24

The Overseas Press Club 40th anniversary dinner will be held on Thursday, May 24, at the Starlight Roof at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, according to an announcement made by OPC President *Henry Gellermann*.

The key speaker will be General Alexander M. Haig, Supreme Commander of NATO Forces in Europe. There has been growing speculation regarding General Haig's future plans after relinquishing his NATO command next July, his return to civilian life and a possible political career.

In making the announcement, Mr. Gellermann stressed the help he got from Washington OPC member *Joe Newman*, who contacted the General's Pentagon Liaison office and helped in the final arrangements.

The club's annual awards honoring journalists in all areas of news-gathering will be presented at the dinner. *Lowell Thomas* is honorary chairman of the event. Other committee chairpersons are:

Reception: *Henry Gellermann*  
Seating: *Anita Diamant Berke*  
Program and invitations: *Harry Rand*  
Treasurer: *Arthur Milton*  
Awards: *Robert Sheridan*  
Script: *George Burns*  
Production: *Russell C. Tornabene*  
Menu: *Li Ling Ai*  
Photography: *Charles E. Rotkin*  
Press relations: *Charles J. Schreiber*  
Bulletin: *John Guenther*  
DATELINE 1979 (OPC annual magazine): *Arthur Milton* and *Kenneth S. Giniger*.



Gen. Alexander Haig

—photo courtesy New York Times

## New Membership Drive Planned

The launching of a major drive for new members, as well as old members who for one reason or another left the club, was announced by OPC president *Henry Gellermann* at the monthly board of governors meeting February 27th.

"The new facilities and services offered our membership in our new quarters represent an ideal opportunity to recruit new members for our club. There is not a single club anywhere which offers the ambience and quality of service which we offer our members today at a comparable price," he said.

Gellermann requested Board Member *Harry Rand* to prepare a campaign program and budget for discussion and approval at the next board meeting. Citing the fact that the club's sole income is derived from membership fees, Gellermann urged an all out effort to step up recruiting.

"At this pivotal point in our affairs, we can see a return to the dynamic spirit that made the OPC a major organization in the world of news," he stated, "Now we must build again on the same foundation."

### MEMO TO OUR MEMBERS

As reported in our last issue, OPC members can charge food and beverages at the Chemists' Club if they present their current OPC membership card in exchange for a Chemists' Club charge card at the new location.

Also as reported, there is no other way to use the new facilities, so — pay your OPC dues in full (through September) if you want to eat there.

During the transition period, OPC offices will remain at the Biltmore through May to fill out our present lease. Also during the transition period, all OPC special events, such as Jazz Nite and Shop Talk, will be held at the Biltmore until further notice. We will continue to have bar service.



## Pace Predicts Trouble in Iran

Iran is in for "protracted disorder and instability." So predicts Eric Pace, *The New York Times* bureau chief in Teheran from 1974 to 1977, and just back from five hectic weeks there on special assignment.

This veteran foreign correspondent, former OPC member and winner of the George Polk award for foreign reporting, starred in another "Shop Talk" (Feb. 21) arranged by *Larry Stessin* and *Gloria Zukerman*.

Mr. Pace discussed the "general political and religious mix" of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini government. He described what it is like for a foreign correspondent working in Iran.

Threat to the Khomeini Islamic plan remains from the Iran secular left, the Marxists and the East European-oriented Tudeh party, Mr. Pace said. But he doesn't see this as any "real alternative" to Khomeini. Another source of trouble can come from separatist Kurds and Azerbaijanis.

Out of the Iran crisis also emerges an example to other Persian Gulf states that could prove ominous. Strikes by Iranian oil workers proved to be a potent anti-government weapon. It will be "fascinating," Mr. Pace said, to see how Oman dock workers or Kuwait Palestinians, for example, make use of the same tool.

He alerted an attentive OPC audience to the implications of Iran for Israel. Yasir Arafat's "cordiality" on his recent visit to Iran suggests the Palestinians hope for "substantial contributions" in the future. Mr. Pace believes Iranian troops could be deployed on the Israeli/Syrian border. However, Iranian troops in the only engagement tested in Oman did not prove skilled, he said.

Mr. Pace was surprised at the public "fury" at the Shah, and the "jubilation" when he departed Iran. He quoted Henry Kissinger, who, in a recent London *Economist*, referred to the Shah's "tactical mistakes." These included, Mr. Pace explained, insufficient concessions to Muslims and traditionalists; huge controversial arms purchases; ill-planned economic growth at a time of inflation, income gaps, capital outflow and employment woes.

In addition, the Shah's agricultural policies, particularly food production not keeping pace with need, were attacked. The poor flocked to the cities. High-rise construction was incompatible with Islamic tradition.

—Blythe Foote Finke



Peter Dean

## JAZZ NIGHT SINGER

"It's all as Peter Dean would like it to be — fun," says John Wilson of *The New York Times* in the liner notes for the jazz singer's new album, "Only Time Will Tell." Peter "Snake Hips" Dean is the headliner for the twilight jazz session Friday, March 30, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The program is free to OPC members, with seating on a first-come basis.

On the program with Dean will be his outstanding artist-friends, Dill Jones, piano; Mike Peters, guitar, Vince Giordano, bass; and Richie Barron, drums. Featured with Dean are vocalists Jean Churchill and Lucy Simon.

Dean's remarkable career spans the cream of traditional jazz years. He is equally wellknown as an exceptional performer and talent manager. He is credited with introducing Dinah Shore in New York and originating the blues/jazz program, "Society of Lower Basin Street," for NBC radio. Paul Whiteman, Johnny Nash, Peggy Lee, Buddy Weed and many others have been under his management.

A native Philadelphian, Dean says it was Earl Tucker and his celebrated "Snake Hips" dance in "Blackbirds of 1928" that first inspired and sent him swinging, singing, and dancing into the world of jazz.

—Wilma Dobie

## PLACEMENT

Helen Alpert, OPC Placement Service, announced a job opening for a keen, editor-type reporter, male or female, to scout and develop strong human-interest features in lively Florida area. Salary \$35,000. Moving expenses paid by employer. For details, reach Dan Gardner, Able Personnel Agency, 475 Fifth Avenue, New York 10017 or phone MU 9-5500. Fee paid by employer.

## Times Editor Talks About Job

Le Anne Schreiber, first woman sports editor of *The New York Times*, already feels right at home, she said, although being a celebrity is trying. Her appointment is "totally out of line with my background," the humorous, feisty 33-year-old editor told an intrigued "Shop Talk" audience February 26.

What is it like to put together 18 columns of sports copy a day with the help of 55 sports writers?

"It is the closest thing, dealing with the world of sports, to dealing with the world of good fiction. Sports is not just business, finance, politics. It is the best, the most primal drama going," she declared.

To write sports is to write fiction, she said — "a drama of character, situation and comedy of manners. You must understand the appeal and drama of the game. It is not so much statistics and strategy, but capturing the drama for the reader."

Public response to her editorial appointment has been "incredible." The story of her sudden rise to fame began with a British Common Market referendum three years ago during "a very slow week" when she worked for Time magazine.

She was assigned to write a 1500-word cover story on the subject. It was pushed off the cover to the middle of the magazine when President Ford's life was threatened. A high-placed editor still thought it "the best story in a long time."

As a result, Time sent her to Montreal to cover the Olympics. This was her first exposure to covering sports.

Miss Schreiber plunged in to the Olympics. "I wrote three cover stories. It was the most difficult three weeks of my life, but I survived."

She intended to return to international politics. Again she couldn't resist an offer to edit womenSports magazine, one that came because of her excellent Olympics coverage. "I loved every minute of it." When it folded she intended to return to general news.

But in February 1978 the Times offered her a job as assistant sports editor. "Again I tried to explain it was a mistake. I was not a sports writer, just happened into it. But it was too good an opportunity to miss." A year later she is in charge.

"It is a shaggy dog story, but I have ended up in the place that feels like home." —Blythe Foote Finke



## FROM THE CLUBS

LONDON — The Association of American Correspondents in London, 62 years old this year and still very active, had as its first lunch guest of the year William Rees-Mogg, editor of *The Times of London*, which together with its sister publication, *The Sunday Times*, and its literary and educational supplements, has been closed since Nov. 30, 1978 in a dispute with its unions over introduction of what in Britain is referred to as "new technology."

This, in effect, is a dispute over introduction of computerized equipment enabling writers' and reporters' copy and small ads to be set up direct without any linotypers' operation. Inevitably, this would mean sizeable staff cuts which the three printing unions have rejected uncompromisingly. *Times* management also is seeking an end to constant disruption by print workers which meant the loss of hundreds of thousands of copies of all *Times* publications in recent years.

After failure to get agreement, *Times* management closed down all the publications Nov. 30. Rees-Mogg told the American Correspondents' Association lunch that management is determined not to back down and that the shutdown, which had cost the papers about \$10 million by the end of January, is likely to be a long one. But he said he remains confident the old "Thunderer" will resume publication again sooner or later.

The Association's President for 1979 is Frank Melville of Time-Life-Fortune who succeeded Joseph W. Grigg of United Press International, 1978 President. David Mason of Associated Press is 1979 Vice President.

London has been something of a staging post for reporters assigned to Iran. Among those from here have been Leon Daniel, United Press International European news chief, who has made the Teheran "milk run" no less than three times in recent months, R. W. "Johnny" Apple of *New York Times* and William Tuohy of the *Los Angeles Times*.

A recent visitor to London was Marshall Loeb, *Time's* Business Editor, who was interviewed at length (and most articulately, considering it was shortly after 8 a.m.) on BBC radio. He opined that the United States' economic outlook in 1980 is good but he was less optimistic about Britain, which he felt just doesn't produce enough.

Kingman Brewster, former Yale University president and current U.S. Ambassador to the Court of St. James, put out the welcome mat to American

and British correspondents (mainly the more serious political and diplomatic types) at a reception Jan. 31 at the embassy residence, the magnificent Winfield House in London's Regents Park — as Brewster puts it, "somewhere between the new London mosque and the Zoo." —Joseph W. Grigg

BERLIN — The 29th Film Festival, or Filmfestspiele, in West Berlin got off on a highly political tone, and with a bang. The American entry (out of competition) was Michel Cimino's "The Deer Hunter." It caused such a stir among delegates from the Eastern block countries that they withdrew all their entries, claiming that the United States was using the film-fest for propaganda purposes.

Ironically as it may seem, the Chinese incursion into Vietnam had coincided with opening night, and "Deer Hunter" was used as the scapegoat for the withdrawal. The film takes a realistic look at war and its aggressions, and as one of the principal actors put it, it is not a political vehicle, it is simply a film.

Finding films to fill the gap has been a problem, and although there are entries from France such as Jeane Moreau's "L'Adolescente" and America's "Hard Core" with George C. Scott, they have been padding programmes by showing films twice in one day.

Nevertheless a truly international atmosphere prevails in the halls of the festival. Actors, directors and journalists are flying in and out of Berlin's new airport, Tegel, symbolizing the free competitive spirit which reigns in this city.

—Theodore Macauley

HONG KONG — Asian government representatives met in Kuala Lumpur for 10 days in February to discuss ways in which news might be exchanged between news agencies of 23 nations in Asia and the Pacific.

The conference failed to reach agreement on an Asian news network but recommended that Asian and Oceania governments cooperate more closely to improve communications and information exchange.

The conference, sponsored by UNESCO said that the present international news flow is monopolized by AP, UPI, Reuters and AFP.

Covering the conference for the western agencies were Ken Whiting, AP, Singapore; Charlie Bernard, UPI Singapore; Mike Neale, Reuters London, and N.G. Nair, AFP Kuala Lumpur.

Peter Kann, editor and publisher of the Hong Kong-based *Asian Wall Street Journal*, has returned to the United

States to become a corporate officer with Dow Jones and Co., which publishes *The Wall Street Journal* in New York and Hong Kong.

Robert Keatley, *The Wall Street Journal's* foreign editor, was named editor of the Asia edition, and John Orr was promoted from general business director to publisher of the Hong Kong paper. Kann had spent 12 years in Asia as a reporter and editor.

Suzanne Green was transferred from Hong Kong to New Delhi to become UPI's manager for West Asia. She replaced John Needham, who moves to UPI's Tokyo bureau.

—Al Kaff

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## OPC BULLETIN

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John Guenther, Chairman and Editor; Helen Alpert, Matt Bassity, Ruth Biemiller, George Burns, Blythe Foote Finke, Ben G. Frank, Thomas J. Kraner, Ralph Leviton, Rosalind Moore, Grace Naismith, Rebecca Riger.



# Who, What, Where

By GRACE NAISMITH

**HONORS:** The 1978 Citation Award of the Detroit Chapter, Public Relations Society of America, was presented to **John E. Sattler**, chairman, 75th Anniversary Program Committee, Ford Motor Company, for the public relations program considered the most distinguished professional activity by a member during 1978. Sattler has also been elected to the Board of Management of the International Public Relations Association, an organization with 600 members in 50 countries. Sattler lives in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. He is author of "Writing on Public Relations." ... **Patricia J. Ludorf**, manager of corporate communications of General Cable Corporation, has received national accreditation status from the Public Relations Society of America. She has received the Society's high honor, the Silver Anvil Award, in addition to awards from the International Association Business Communicators and the Society of Consumer Affairs Professional in Business. General Cable Corporation is in Greenwich, Conn.

**GIFT:** **Lowell Thomas** has donated his 350-acre estate in Pawling, New York, to the University of Denver, his alma mater. The Dutchess County property will be sold eventually and the proceeds will be used to finance an addition to the university's law school. A portrait of the 86-year-old journalist and pioneer broadcaster will one day hang in the Lowell Thomas Law Center. Thomas is a Horatio Alger Award winner, and, as we all know, an OPC ex-president.

**TRAVELING:** **Walter H. Diamond**, principal, Hauser, O'Connor & Hyland, certified public accountants, has just returned from Australia and New Zealand. His wife Dorothy, columnist and author, accompanied him on trade and travel assignments. They were interviewed at length on Radio New Zealand.

**MAGAZINES:** **Bunny Brower** has an article in the February issue of *Travel and Leisure*, "What'll the Kids Do This Summer?" Recent travel articles have also been in *The Washington Star*, *The Boston Herald American* and *New York News World*.

**COLUMNIST:** **Meg Whitcomb**, executive editor, *50 Plus*, has a new daily column, "Changing Scene" in *The New York Post*, syndicated by Rupert Murdoch's News Features Syndicate. Her

"Dear Meg" column still appears weekly in *The Star*, and appeared on the same page as a "Dear Abby" column in *The New York Post* Feb. 15.

**COLLECTORS ANYBODY?:** **Ralph Gardner's** *Celebrity Collector* feature in *Collector Editions Magazine*, photo-illustrated, welcomes suggestions on recognizable personalities and their collectibles. Telephone: 212 753 8151. PR people, alert!

**A TELEVISION NEW:** **William B. Gray**, director of communications, Trinity Parish, has conceived a new and original television feature which he moderates. It concerns community planning and is aired Sundays, 9 a.m. WABC TV, Channel 7. Each week Gray also interviews representatives of Jewish and Roman Catholic communities on decision making subjects.

**ARTIST with courage:** **Frances Kish** who is recuperating from a stroke in 1977, and featured in a UPI column by Gay Pauley, has exhibitions during February and March in Connecticut. One is in Waterbury through March 2 at the Pomeroy Pavillion Art Corridor of the Waterbury General Hospital; another — between Mar. 6 and 23 — will be at the Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company corporate headquarters, One American Row, Hartford. Frances and her sister, Henriette, have been active OPC members, serving on many committees. It is good to know that Frances is still painting, with her left hand, since the right one was grounded by her stroke. Kalarson has arranged the exhibits in Conn.

**DISCUSSION PANEL:** **Edward L. Bernays**, super-publicist, has a new theme: his uncle, Sigmund Freud at the

Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine in Boston, Apr. 4. Films and discussions about leaders in American medicine have included Hans Selye, Varaztad H. Kazanjian, William Dameshek and Charles H. Best (Mar. 7).

**LOOK!:** **Margaret Parton** makes the first edition of the new *Look* with an unpublished article about Marilyn Monroe. The interview was in 1962 shortly before the actress's death, and *Look* says, "has a haunting memory." Margaret Parton, long an OPC member, was a reporter and foreign correspondent for *The N.Y. Herald Tribune*, was an editor of *Ladies' Home Journal*, wrote four books, and would have been present and honored at the OPC *Look* luncheon, Feb. 13, if it hadn't been cancelled. She lives in Palisades, N.Y.

**VIOLENCE:** Broadcasts these days from OPC members in crucial zones remind us of what the OPC is all about. Voices of **Bruce Dunning**, **Bernard Redmont** — and the death of Joe Alex Morris, Jr. OPC Award winner in 1967 — these are reminders of the courage and greatness of the foreign correspondent.

## Up-and-coming

**Wednesday, March 21, 5:30 p.m.** — Shop Talk, with Allan Neuharth, chief executive officer and chairman of the board of Gannett Newspapers and president of the American Newspaper Publishers Association. Cash bar. At the Biltmore.

**Friday, March 30, 5:30 p.m.** — Jazz Nite, with Peter Dean, jazz singer, and guests. Free to OPC members; seating on first-come basis; cash bar. At the Biltmore.

Overseas Press Club of America, Inc.  
Hotel Biltmore, 55 East 43rd Street  
New York, N.Y. 10017

FIRST CLASS

